

## COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

Attorney Docket No:

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **GROPING OPERATION APPARATUS**

the specification of which (check only one item below):

☐ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed as United States application

Serial No.

on

and was amended

on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

☒ was filed as PCT international application

Number PCT/JP00/08343

on November 27, 2000

and was amended under PCT Article 34

on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations. § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international applications(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

## PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119:

| COUNTRY | APPLICATION NUMBER          | DATE OF FILING<br>(day, month, year) | PRIORITY CLAIMED<br>UNDER 35 USC 119                                |
|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Japan   | Patent Appln. No. 11-334367 | 25. 11. 99                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
|         |                             |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO            |
|         |                             |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO            |
|         |                             |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO            |
|         |                             |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO            |

**COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

Attorney Docket No:

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) or § 120, as applicable of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

**PRIOR U.S. APPLICATIONS OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S. FOR BENEFIT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 120:**

| U.S. APPLICATIONS                            |                  | STATUS (Check one)                       |         |           |
|--|------------------|--|---------|-----------|
| U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER                      | U.S. FILING DATE | PATENTED                                 | PENDING | ABANDONED |
|  |                  |  |         |           |
|  |                  |  |         |           |
|  |                  |  |         |           |
| <b>PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.</b> |                  |  |         |           |
| PCT APPLICATION NO.                          | PCT FILING DATE  | U.S. SERIAL NUMBERS<br>ASSIGNED (if any) |         |           |
|  |                  |  |         |           |
|  |                  |  |         |           |
|  |                  |  |         |           |

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration number)

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

The undersigned hereby authorize any U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions from Nobuaki KATO and Nobumitsu ASAHI as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from-whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorneys or agents named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR

Eietsu SASAKI

INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE

Eietsu Sasaki

DATE

July 12, 2001

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| POST OFFICE ADDRESS (Complete Address including City, State & Country)   |  |   |                              |
| FULL NAME OF FIFTH JOINT INVENTOR (if any)   |  | INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE                          | DATE                         |
| RESIDENCE (City, State & Country)  |  | CITIZENSHIP                                   |                              |
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| FULL NAME OF EIGHTH JOINT INVENTOR (if any)  |  | INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE                          | DATE                         |
| RESIDENCE (City, State & Country)  |  | CITIZENSHIP                                   |                              |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS (Complete Address including City, State & Country)   |  |   |                              |